In the Claims

1 – 8 (Cancelled).

9. (Currently Amended) A parking space locating system comprising:

at least one vehicle detector disposed proximately to an associated parking space and configured to output an occupied /vacant signal along with an associated space identifier according to whether said vehicle detector detects that a vehicle is present/absent in/from said associated parking space respectively;

a central processor in communication with said at least one vehicle detector via at least one communication link;

wherein said central processor is programmed to receive at least one of said occupied/vacancy signals along with said associated space identifiers and maintain an updated database of said occupied/vacant signals along with associated space identifiers,

wherein said central processor integrates said database with geographical map data including a geographical area of said parking space(s) and generates ~~a data structure~~ an electronic street map which is capable of being displayed on a standard computer device screen as a graphical map, said graphical map having sufficient detail to distinguish individual parking spaces, wherein said occupied/vacant signal is indicated at a corresponding location on said graphical map;

wherein said central processor is further programmed and configured to quickly communicate updated graphical map data structures including updated occupied/vacant signal indication to a network.

10. (Original) The system according to claim 9 wherein said network comprises a publicly accessible network.

11. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 9 wherein said network includes ~~the~~ an internet.

12. (Original) The system according to claim 9 wherein said at least one vehicle detector is disposed in a parking meter.

13. (Original) The system according to claim 9 wherein said at least one communication link is an electrical transmission line.

14. (Original) The system according to claim 9 wherein said at least one communication link is a microwave link.

15. (Original) The system according to claim 9 wherein said at least one communication link is a fiber optic link.

16. (Original) The system according to claim 9 wherein said at least one vehicle detector is an ultrasonic metal detector.

17. (Currently Amended) A method of notifying motorists of vacant parking space locations comprising the steps of:

detecting the presence or absence of a vehicle in at least one identifiable parking space;

generating a signal to represent the presence or absence of ~~a~~ the vehicle in ~~at~~ said at least one identifiable parking space;

associating said signal with a respective space identifier;

interpreting said signal along with said respective space identifier as space identifier data;

integrating said space identifier data with digital street-map data describing an area including said at least one identifiable parking space to form an active street-map;

wherein said active street-map is capable of being interpreted by standard computer systems for displaying geographical indicators of parking space status at space locations on an electronic street map; and

communicating said active street-map to a network.

18. (Cancelled)

19. (Original) The method according to claim 17 further comprising the steps of:

communicating said active street map to a mobile-accessible network;

determining a user's location using GPS information;

displaying an active-street map of an area including the user's position.

20. (Original) The method according to claim 17 further comprising the steps of:

periodically updating said active street-map by repeating said step of interpreting said signal along with said respective space identifier as space identifier data; and

repeating said step of integrating said space identifier data with digital street-map data describing an area including said at least one identifiable parking space to form an active street-map.